



Seeing the Light- New Street Lights Installed



Through the cooperative efforts of Reliant Energy HL&P, the Texas Department of Transportation, and the City of Sugar Land, State Highway 6 will be a safer and more beautiful corridor with the installation of ornamental streetlights.

The lights are of the latest technology, and combine the charming look of ornamental lights with the functionality of standard light fixtures. The streetlights will be banner rated, enabling the City to install decorative banners along this highly traveled corridor. The light poles will also be equipped with electrical outlets to be used for the installation of seasonal lights and decorations.

The project is scheduled to be complete in late July or early August of this year.

Oyster Creek Park Opens



Oyster Creek Park is the latest and greatest addition to Sugar Land's Park System. The 108-acre Park contains wildlife, a massive water feature, an amphitheater, and extensive landscaping. Associated with the Park is a new 2.25-mile asphalt trail that meanders between Lexington Boulevard and Dulles Avenue, along Oyster Creek. It also includes a lighted half-mile loop around Oyster Creek Park and a 0.9-mile concrete trail around Lost Creek Park. The trails are ideal for runners, walkers, cyclists, and rollerbladers.

"The facility serves as Sugar Land's version of Houston's Memorial Park," according to Parks and Recreation Director Lemuel Randolph. "It will be a venue for the community to exercise, relax, and enjoy family activities in a natural setting nestled amidst a fast developing commercial and residential area."

The Park can be accessed from Highway 6, between Austin Parkway and Settlers Way Boulevard, where parking is provided for 36 cars. Oyster Creek Trail can be accessed from Highway 6, Lexington Boulevard, Dulles Avenue, and Lost Creek Park. Pedestrian bridges are also built across the creek at several locations.

Welcome Aboard,



Michael Siwierka!

On June 6, City Council appointed Michael J. Siwierka to the Council Single Member District Four position. He will serve until May 2001, when the next election takes place. Siwierka has been a Sugar Land resident for almost 17 years, living in the district he is now representing for 13 years. He has served one year as an alternate member on the Building Codes Board of Adjustment and Appeals. In addition to his municipal experience, Siwierka has been an active community and business leader with various organizations.

Siwierka is a partner in The Linebarger Heard Law Firm, and fills James Thompson's position on City Council. In May, Thompson was elected Council Member At-Large Position One. The City's Charter requires that City Council fill a term within 30 days of the date of its vacancy.

CITY COUNCIL

Dean A. Hrbacek
Mayor

James A. Thompson
Councilmember-At-Large
Position One

Karyn K. Dean
Councilmember-At-Large
Position Two

Don Smithers
Councilmember
District One

Cyril Hosley
Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember
District Two

J. Brian Gaston
Councilmember
District Three

Michael J. Siwierka
Councilmember
District Four

CITY STAFF

David Neeley
City Manager

Allen Bogard
Deputy City Manager

Karen Glynn
Director of Community Development

Earnest Taylor
Police Chief

John Wu
Fire Chief

Joe Morris
City Attorney

Glenda Gundermann
City Secretary

City Council Sets Visions and Agenda for the Future

Sugar Land's City Council adopted five visions at a meeting this past Spring that will provide guidance for the allocation of resources and in determining the City's long-term needs.

The City's visions are:

- A planned community
- Safe city
- Strong local economy
- Financially sound city
- Mobility for people

Along with the visions, the City Council will also focus on the following targets for this year: an annexation plan, economic development, hotel/conference center development plan, a municipal facilities plan, a financial policies plan, comprehensive land use plan, a mobility plan, a City aesthetics plan, drainage policy, and a wastewater treatment plant plan.

National Night Out

Set a chair on your front lawn, bring a cool drink, and socialize with your neighbors for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 1. The City is participating in the event to help reduce crime and drugs in the area by encouraging residents to get to know their neighbors. Public safety personnel and City officials will visit block parties around Sugar Land. If you are interested in hosting a party for your neighbors, call Officer Butch McAllister at 281-275-2575.

Running a Good Race



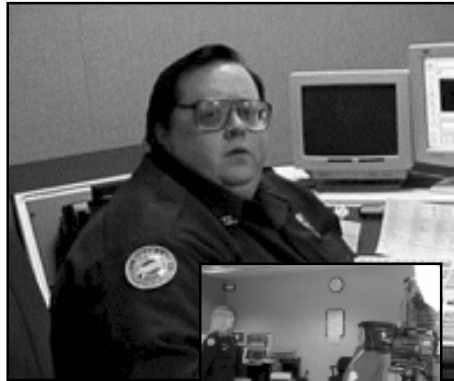
On May 24, Officers Jonathan Sipe and Matt Levan, and Detective Kevin Brownlee began the Texas Torch Run benefiting the Special Olympics.

The Run is an international series of torch relays run by law enforcement officers leading up to the State's Summer Special Olympic Games. Through the relays, the officers raise money for their own local programs. Special Olympics helps individuals with mental retardation to discover their life's potential.

In late May, participants ran from Houston to Brenham, Navasota, College Station and Waco before they ran on to the Summer Games in Arlington, sore feet and all.

More than 1,000 Texas law enforcement officials carried the torch this year to benefit Special Olympics. Sugar Land police raised more than \$4,200 in support of the Games.

Police Officers Honored for Valor



Eber



Barbara at interview

Eber Stewart and **Barbara Richards** are two of 10 statewide recipients of the Texas Commission on State Emergency Communications Telecommunicator of the Year Award after helping two teenagers to safety.

Two teenagers were the victims of road rage as they were chased and rammed by a second car along a highway. The girls called 9-1-1. Stewart called for police support and Richards directed the girls to the Sugar Land Police Department parking lot, where a man was arrested.

Richards' and Stewart's quick thinking and action kept the police informed while keeping the girls calm and safe. They were honored for their valor at a banquet in San Antonio.

Amy Leggett is also a recipient of a Certificate of Outstanding Performance from the same Commission. She received the Certificate for handling a woman's telephone call in a car theft incident.

SL Officer Awarded

Detective Mark Grothaus received the Exchange Club of Sugar Land's Officer of the Year Award. Mark has worked extensively on investigating juvenile crimes in the area, and was recognized at a district-wide banquet for his work on an attempted capital murder case that occurred in March 1999.



Three Subdivisions Join Neighborhood Watch Program

Cypress Glen, Riverbend North, and Sugar Lakes subdivisions have recently joined Sugar Land's Neighborhood Watch Program to help combat residential crime.

Neighborhood Watch is a community educational program that solicits citizen involvement to discourage and prevent crime. Local police educate citizens on the principles of crime deterrence, delay, and detection, and encourage them to report any suspicious activity to authorities.

Contact your area homeowners association to find out how you can become involved.



United States Census 2000

Residents Rank High

This spring, around 95% of Sugar Land residents filled out their U.S. Census form. The initial return rate was 73% and, after enumerators went door-to-door in April, the return rate jumped to about 95%. The average rate of return for Texas was 62%, while the national average was 65%.

Here is how others fared:

Missouri City: 72%

Fort Bend: 69%

Stafford: 62%

Houston: 58%

Thank you for filling out your form. Sugar Land can always “count” on its residents.

New Ambulance for Fire Station 2

The City of Sugar Land Fire Department, in conjunction with Fort Bend County Emergency Medical Services, has placed a full-time ambulance at Sugar Land Fire Station 2. Located at 1040 Industrial, this ambulance upgrades a part-time 3-11 p.m. “peak hour” ambulance, and primarily serves residents north of Highway 90.

The City’s second ambulance brings an average response time to five minutes or less for residents living north of Highway 90. Previously, the Williams Trace at U.S. 59 unit was called. When it was on another call, units from Richmond or Missouri City responded.

In 1983, the last time a full-time ambulance was added in Sugar Land, the county had 4,900 emergency calls a year. In 1999, that number topped 13,000. A third City ambulance is planned for a future fire station in Greatwood.

Sugar Land Offers Citizens the Opportunity to Pay Traffic Fines On-line

Have you recently received a ticket for illegal parking or a traffic violation in Sugar Land? If so, Sugar Land’s Municipal Court now has added a service to pay traffic fines on-line.

To pay Court violations, including warrants, citizens now may access the City’s Web site at www.ci.sugar-land.tx.us and go to the “Municipal Court” link. In a menu-driven format, information regarding the Court violation, such as the ticket number and fine amount, will be asked. Citizens must pay with a credit card, and a processing fee will be applied. All transactions are secure.

The new payment option allows citizens the convenience of not traveling to Sugar Land to appear in court or worry about mailing the payment. “This is an excellent way to save citizens and the City time and money,” says Court administrator Janell Kucera. “It also cuts down on the congestion in the Court Building lobby area.”

Citizens may still pay violations using cash, a check, or a credit card by appearing in person at the Municipal Court Building, 1200 Highway 6. They may also pay by credit card by calling 1-888-462-1157. Again, a processing fee will be applied.

What's in the AIR

Equipment for an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) has arrived at the airport, and installation is scheduled to begin the second week in July. The AWOS will enable pilots and the public to access current real time weather information by telephone or aircraft radio.

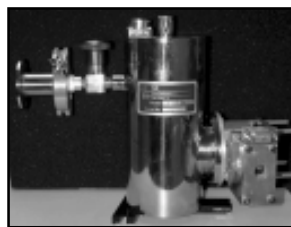
The airport has recently completed a project for the cleaning and remarking of an 8000-foot runway. The work was done entirely at night to minimize the impact to air traffic. This project significantly enhances safety for aircraft using the airport.

Western Airways, one of the largest aircraft charter and maintenance services in the Houston metropolitan area, is scheduled to complete its new hangar/office facility the second week in July. The new 27,600-square foot facility will allow Western Airways to consolidate all of its operations and over 20 aircraft at the Sugar Land Municipal Airport.

Hard Hats Off!

Congratulations Nalco/Exxon for your achieving the prestigious 2000 Texas Environmental Excellence Award and also for your plant maintenance employees achieving 25 years of operation without a lost time accident.

A New Face in Town



Applied Optoelectronics, Inc. (AOI), a manufacturer of advanced semiconductor lasers and photodetectors, is building a new laboratory and manufacturing facility in the Sugar Land Business Park. Completion is targeted for November.

The company produces high power, mid-infrared diode lasers and arrays used in industrial process control, laboratory chemical sensing, semiconductor manufacturing, vehicle exhaust monitoring, infrared countermeasures and telecommunications.

AOI is an outgrowth of the University of Houston's Space Vacuum Epitaxy Center (SVEC), a NASA Commercial Space Center.

Try to match the Sugar Land company with its services or product

Business	Description
Baker Petrolite	Dessert wholesaler
Cable & Wireless	Turbo machinery services
CGI/Camelot	Computer software
Crown Cork and Seal	Chemical manufacturer
Fluor Daniel	Telecommunications
Healix	Beverage can manufacturer
Neon Systems	Oil and gas well servicing
Rolls Royce	Health care services
Schlumberger	Kitchen cutlery
Tramontina USA	Engineering, construction services

Answers: Baker Petrolite, chemical manufacturer; Cable & Wireless, telecommunications; CGI/Camelot, dessert wholesaler; Crown Cork and Seal, beverage can manufacturer; Fluor Daniel, telecommunications; Healix, health care services; Neon Systems, computer software; engineering, construction services; Rolls Royce, oil and gas well servicing; Schlumberger, kitchen cutlery; Tramontina USA, turbo machinery services.

U.S. Highway 59 Update

You may feel you are moving slower on U.S. 59, but construction crews are working double shifts to make real progress. Here are the highlights from around the City:

- Construction on W. Airport Boulevard, near U.S. 59 and Eldridge, is complete.
- Construction on Dairy Ashford, near Stiles Lane and W. Bellfort, is complete.
- The southern half of W. Bellfort, near Dairy Ashford and Eldridge, is complete. Traffic has been diverted to new pavement.
- University Boulevard, near U.S. 59 and Commonwealth, is under design.
- The northbound frontage road over Oyster Creek is anticipated to be open by September.
- The southbound frontage road over Oyster Creek is anticipated to be open by November.
- To allow construction of frontage roads at the U.S. 59/90A intersection, eastbound and westbound traffic on U.S. 90A will be diverted to a detour.
- Sound walls along the Alkire Lakes subdivision between Commerce Green Boulevard and Sugar Lakes Drive will be in place by year-end.
- Main lanes over 90A, between Kirkwood and Sugar Creek, should open by April 2002.
- Frontage roads and 90A will be complete by Summer 2003.
- Main lanes between Sugar Creek Blvd and Highway 6 should be complete by Summer 2002.
- A preliminary schematic of U.S. 59 between Highway 6 and Grand Parkway is complete. The proposed improvements include four main lanes, one high occupancy lane, two frontage road lanes and one auxiliary lane in each direction.

One year down, two to go!



Thanks to...

residents, homeowners associations and civic groups for the 74 suggestions submitted as part of the Sugar Land Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Suggestions were received in the following areas:

Streets/Traffic	37
Sidewalks/Hike & Bike	18
Parks	09
Other	10

According to Mike Hobbs, manager of the City's capital improvement program, suggestions that deal with health and welfare will be addressed immediately. Others will be proposed in the five-year capital improvement program set for adoption on October 1, or held for future consideration.

The City welcomes citizen input. Obtain a CIP form at City Hall or by accessing the City's Web site at www.ci.sugar-land.tx.us. The form can be found in Community Development under City Services.

Model Road Repairs

- Residents can view U.S. 59 model

Are you curious about how U.S. Highway 59 will look after construction is complete? The City has a model on tour that depicts the eventual "new and improved" look of U.S. 59, and residents are encouraged to catch a glimpse of it. To find out where the model is currently located or to schedule having it on display in your organization, please call the Community Action Center at 281-275-2489.

**For further
information about
U.S. 59 construction,
please call the hotline at
(281) 276-9959 or visit
the City's Web site.**



Residents who completed the compost training.

Master Composters Complete Training-

Students Looking for Volunteer Service Hours

In a step towards state certification, 28 residents recently completed Master Composter training, a comprehensive course focusing on backyard composting, the benefits of mulching, green landscape design, yard care maintenance, grasscycling, xeriscaping, and other yard care benefits.

Students must complete 20 volunteer public outreach hours during their first year to receive their Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission certification to become Master Composters.

For more information about Master Composters training or work, call the City's Solid Waste Division at 281-275-2450.



Viva Las Sugar Fest

The AirWalk Stunt Team, Kachunga the Alligator, and a crafts show are just a few of the attractions for Sugar Festival 2000. This event is so much fun that even Elvis, along with other musical guests, will attend.

Other musical talents include The Doobie Borthers, The Turtles, Hermann's Hermits, and Hal Ketchum.

The event will take place on Labor Day weekend, September 2-4, at the intersection of Highway 6 and U.S. 59. The price of admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased at Foley's, Fiesta or Krogers, or by calling 713-629-3700.

And don't forget your blue suede shoes.

Be Aware | Be Prepared



Predictions for this hurricane season call for an above normal season with 12 main storms—40 percent of which should be in the Gulf. Eight of the 12 storms should become official hurricanes, with four of them predicted to be category 3 (111-150 mph winds) or greater.

Hurricane season runs until Nov. 30, so be prepared to "rough it" for three days with

- non-perishable foods and drinking water,

- battery-powered flashlight and TV or radio, plus extra batteries, and
- plastic sheeting and masking tape to wrap or cover items.

It's also helpful to develop a family emergency plan, including where to meet if separated. Share this with at least two relatives or friends who do not reside in the immediate area.

Elderly residents and those dependent on life support systems should evacuate early to avoid traffic congestion. Coastal residents will be directed to Highways 6 and 36 north, 90 west and 59 south (then 71 north), so be prepared for blinking yellow traffic lights that move residents non-stop away from the coast.

For additional information, visit the Fort Bend County Office of Emergency Management at www.fortbend.lib.tx.us/emerman/oem

Trash and Recycling Rolling Holidays

A trash holiday will occur on Monday, September 4, 2000 in observance of Labor Day. Monday's trash pickup will roll to Tuesday, and Tuesday's collection will move to Wednesday. Please have trash and recycling at the curb or back door by 7 a.m. to assure trash pickup.

For more information, call 281-275-2450 or visit the City's Web site at www.ci.sugar-land.tx.us.

Water Quality Report

All residents have been sent a Sugar Land Water Quality Report. If you have not received a copy, please call the Public Works Department at (281) 275-2450.



City of Sugar Land
PO Box 110
Sugar Land, TX 77478-0110

A DATE TO REMEMBER

August

1 National Night Out

1 City Council Meeting

6 Pool Closes Daily Operations

10 Seniors Trip to Enron Field, Astros Game

12 Pool Begins Weekend Only Operations

15 Fort Bend Independent Schools Begin

15 City Council Meeting

22 City Council Workshop

September

2-4 Sugar Festival

4 Labor Day, City Offices Closed

5 City Council Meeting

19 City Council Meeting

26 City Council Workshop

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